

Thursday, June 19, 1997

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Intelligence Authorizations.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5951-S6015

Measures Introduced: Five bills were introduced, as follows: S. 937-941. Pages S5999-S6000

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

Special Report entitled "Allocation to Subcommittees of budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for Fiscal Year 1998". (S. Rept. No. 105-31)

S. 648, to establish legal standards and procedures for product liability litigation. (S. Rept. No. 105-32) Page S5999

Measures Passed:

Intelligence Authorizations: By 98 yeas to 1 nays (Vote No. 109), Senate passed S. 858, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, after taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

Pages S5963-78

Adopted:

By a unanimous vote of 99 yeas (Vote 107), Wellstone Amendment No. 415, to express the sense of the Senate that any tax legislation enacted should meet a standard of fairness in its distributional impact. Pages S5966-70, S5974-75

Rejected:

By 43 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 108), Torricelli Amendment No. 416, to require an unclassified statement of the aggregate amount of appropriations for intelligence activities. Pages S5970-75

DOD Authorizations: Senate began consideration of S. 936, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1998 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the

Armed Forces, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S5978-98

Adopted:

Lautenberg Amendment No. 417, to strike section 3138, relating to a prohibition on recovery of certain additional costs for environmental response actions associated with the Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Project program, and to require a report on the remediation activities of the Department of Energy. Pages S5985-89

Smith Amendment No. 418 (to Amendment No. 417), to require a report to Congress regarding the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action program of the Department of Energy. Pages S5988-89

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 110), Feinstein/Biden Amendment No. 419, to prohibit the distribution of certain information relating to explosives, destructive devices, and weapons of mass destruction. Pages S5989-91, S5996-98

Pending:

Cochran/Durbin Amendment No. 420, to require a license to export computers with composite theoretical performance equal to or greater than 2,000 million theoretical operations per second.

Pages S5991-96, S5998

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Friday, June 20, 1997.

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations: Stephen R. Sestanovich, of the District of Columbia, as Ambassador at Large and Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States.

Louis Caldera, of California, to be a Managing Director of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

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Messages From the House:

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Measures Referred:

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Communications:

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Executive Reports of Committees:	Page S5999
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Authority for Committees:	Page S6007
Additional Statements:	Pages S6007–15
Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—110)	Pages S5974–76, S5998

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and recessed at 8 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Friday, June 20, 1997. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6015.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE/ SUBCOMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Committee completed its review of subcommittee allocations of budget outlays and new budget authority allocated to the committee in H. Con. Res. 84, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for the fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002.

CANCER RESEARCH/PHYSICIAN PRACTICE EXPENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, concluded hearings to examine cancer research priorities and the Health Care Financing Administration's proposed plans for implementing the practice expense relative value requirements which Congress mandated for physician services under the Medicare fee schedule, after receiving testimony from Kathleen A. Buto, Associate Administrator for Policy, Health Care Financing Administration, and Richard D. Klausner, Director, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; John C. Bailar, III, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois; Christine Goertz, American Chiropractic Association, Arlington, Virginia; Jay H. Kleiman, American College of Cardiology, Bethesda, Maryland, on behalf of the Practice Expense Coalition; Alan R. Nelson, American Society of Internal Medicine, Washington, D.C.; and Donald H. Smith, American Society of General Surgeons, Glenview, Illinois.

APPROPRIATIONS—IRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government concluded hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Senator Kerrey, Cochairman, National Commission on Restructuring the Internal Revenue Service; James R. White, Associate Director for Tax Policy and Administration Issues, General Accounting Office; and Michael P. Dolan, Acting Commissioner, David A. Mader, Chief, Management and Administration, Arthur A. Gross, Chief Information Officer, and James E. Donelson, Chief, Taxpayer Service, each of the Internal Revenue Service, and Lawrence H. Summers, Deputy Secretary, all of the Department of the Treasury.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 909, to encourage and facilitate the creation of secure public networks for communication, commerce, education, medicine, and government, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 661, to provide for an administrative process for obtaining a waiver of the coastwise trade laws for certain vessels;

S. 662, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Vortice*, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 880, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel *Dusken IV*, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 910, to authorize funds for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for programs of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act;

S. 927, authorizing funds for fiscal years 1998 through 2002 for the National Sea Grant College Program to maintain coastal and marine resources;

H. Con. Res. 8, expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the significance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems, with an amendment; and

Two Coast Guard nomination lists.

US-JAPAN AVIATION RELATIONS

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation held hearings to examine United States international aviation goals and strategies, focusing on the United States-Japan aviation